

• C o u n t e r p o i s e •

The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

Volume XLX

December 2009

Number 12



Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon meets every 2nd Thursday at 7:00 pm at the First Lutheran Church of El Cajon. The address is 867 South Lincoln Ave. Next meeting: December 10, 2009 7:00 pm

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All Official written communication is to be submitted to:

A.R.C.E.C. P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

The Counterpoise is a publication of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). It is published once monthly and contributions are accepted from officers and members of the club. We also encourage input from members of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon. Opinions expressed are solely that of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). Articles may be submitted either by e-mail or mail to the editor.

Paul Rios at:

WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net or by post
12207 Vahalla Dr. Lakeside CA. 92040

The Deadline is Sunday after the General Meeting.

Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

Web Site: <http://www.wa6bgs.org>

Counterpoise E-Mail address

WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net

26.2h



Mother Goose Parade 2009

Next Meeting

Election of Club Officers, Board Members and
"Ham of the Year"

Program Speaker: Wayne Barringer KB6UJW
California ARES, Orange Section

2009 Officers

President	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Vice-President	KO4QT	Steve Weed	733-2320
Secretary	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Treasurer	W6GRK	Gary Kushe	562-5391

2009 Board of Directors

Affiliated Clubs	AE6AV	Larry Plummer	460-1818
Instructor	AE6QW	Gordon Shackelford	561-6323
Membership	KC6TBG	Ann Rios	593-9445
Net Manager	KG6TDP	Mike Oberbauer	444-9090
Public Service	N6NKJ	Rich Beisigl	444-5465
Social Chair	KI6JUD	Linda Weed	971-1535
Past President	KG6JCW	Mike "Stogle" Panger	263-4439

2009 Standing Committees

Bylaws	KC6TBG	Ann Rios	593-9445
Club Attire	K6PKS	Paul Schmidt	733-2284
Counterpoise Editor	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Education	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Elmer	WA6L	John Graf	368-7413
EOC H2O District	N6NKJ	Rich Beisigl	444-5465
Estate Sales	N6JOJ	Tom Myrick	449-3547
Field Day	KO4QT	Steve Weed	733-2320
Health & Welfare	AF6BC	Floyd Lang	697-8655
Historian	KI6QDB	Paul Weekley	
Photographer	KI6EEL	Bridget Rios	
Post Mistress	KC6TBG	Ann Rios	593-9445
Prizes	AF6BC	Floyd Lang	697-8655
Public Relations	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
SANDARC Delegate	K5WFW	Len Fulbright	258-1322
Swap Meet	N6JOJ	Tom Myrick	449-3547
Technical	W2IRI	Bob Boehme	448-4728
Ticket Lady	KI6EEK	Lisie Rios	
WA6BGS Trustee	AE6CQ	Michael Martak	562-6477
WAMO	AE6CQ	Michael Martak	562-6477
Web Master	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Welcome	KI6EEL	Bridget Rios	

Staff and Writers

KC6QLS	Paul	Editor
KO4QT	Steve	Vice President
N6OPH	Mike	Meeting Minutes
KI6FIH	Tassy	HAM Spot Light
AE6CQ	Michael	WAMO
W5COM	Tom & Lisie	Jokes
N6NKJ	Rich	Amateur Radio at Large
WA6L	John	Down Below in EC
WA6MHZ	Pat	Crest Radio Museum
KI6EEL	Bridget	Photos

SANTEE DRIVE-IN SWAP MEET

10990 Woodside Ave., North
FOR INFORMATION, CALL 449-SWAP
Ham Radio, Computers, Electronics
ACRES & ACRES OF BARGAINS
1st & 3rd Saturday of the Month
GATES OPEN 6:30 AM

From The President

Paul KC6QLS



WOW, what a year it has been! This club is very Radio Active indeed. From Field Day to the TWO Club Picnics and everything in between, including members helping out other members and Hams with antenna parties. This has been one for the books! The Club has been growing, and I have seen more and more members at the meetings and members welcoming new members to the Club.

I would like to say a big thanks to Steve, KO4QT. He has not only been the VP for the past two years, he has been a close friend and has helped me setup my new station! Steve has been there through thick and thin when the Club called; from the break in of the shed, where he took the bull by the horns and pulled the club together to donate the gear so we could have Field Day, to the recent antenna parties. Now with two Field Days under his belt, "One with PSK that works", we say thanks! Steve will not be far from us and you will be able to chat with him on the road on HF. He will also, from time to time, send in a column to the Counterpoise "Where is the Weed Patch?"

Linda, KI6JUD, our Social Chair, will be missed. She was in charge of all the cooking at two Field Days. She was also the person in the back of ALL the meetings with the coffee and donuts. If that wasn't enough she is a new General, and was also a member of the Board, which rounded off her duties. A very special thanks goes out to her; she will be missed.

But wait, there is more...Steve, KO4QT; Linda, KI6JUD and Heidi, K9DAWG/2 will be Geocaching and Hamming it up on the Road.

73

Paul Rios, KC6QLS
President



Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

General Membership Meeting
12 November 2009



The General Membership Meeting of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon was called to order by Club President Paul, KC6QLS at 1900hrs. After the pledge of Allegiance visitors were welcomed.

SECRETARY'S Report was read by Mike, N6OPH and was approved.

TREASURER Gary, W6GRK was not present. Mike, N6OPH read the report. It was approved and filed for audit.

Silent Auction device is a computer backup with the opening bid at \$5.

PRESIDENT Paul KC6QLS announced that nominations and the Home Brew Contest would be the order of business. Roy Stark is in the hospital due to a blood clot in his leg. Paul and Steve described the activities at the Fire Station Open House and the Ham Radio Appreciation Day Booth held on 10 October.

NOMINATION'S Report was given. After the Nominations Committee Report, there were nominations from the floor. The following nominations were reported by the Nominations Committee:

President - Paul, KC6QLS; Vice President - Gary, W6GRK; Secretary - Mike, N6OPH; Treasurer - No Candidate. Board of Directors: Ann, KC6TBG; Mike, KG6TDP; Rich, N6NKJ; Byron, KI6BUS. The Committee was discharged with the thanks of the Chair. The following additional nominations were made from the floor: Treasurer - Gordon, AE6QW. Board of Directors: Larry, AE6AV; Nick, AD6UK; Rich, KF6KE; Carl, AF6MX and Bill Hays, N9QO. The election will be conducted during the December meeting. Also, nominations for Ham of the Year were accepted. A report on each Ham of the Year nominee will be presented in the December Counterpoise.

MOTHER GOOSE PARADE Report by Paul KC6QLS that it is still pending in regards to the float and participants in the parade. There will be a smaller parade this year. Christmas dinner is on 15 December with the dinner starting at 1800 hrs with the meeting starting at 1900. The elections and the nomination for Ham of the Year will be announced at this meeting along with the

awarding of prizes and awards. Paul also reported on the Anza-Borrego Parade.

Winner of the Silent Auction was Mike, N6OPH. During the course of the meeting the "Home Brew" Contest was in progress. The contest categories are: Antenna, Novice, Extra and Kit. Three judges were appointed by the President to judge all of the entries. As per the rules of the contests, all submissions must function as documented.

MEMBERSHIP collected \$490.00 for this evening's Membership Drive. There were 65 attendees with 8 visitors.

NET MANAGER Mike stated that there were 22 checks ins on the last WAMO Net.

ARRL Section Manager Steve, AD6VI reported on the upcoming classes and the petition to the FCC to change the rule concerning employees operations with amateur radio during drills.

VICE PRESIDENT Steve reported on the above events.

SANDARC Report was given by Len, K5WFW.

PUBLIC SERVICE Report was given by Rich, N6NKJ.

SOCIAL CHAIRPERSON Linda, KI6JUD is still looking for a replacement.

ADDENDUM: The participants in the "Home Brew" Contest:

Antenna: Mike, KE6CQB 2m collinier; Conrad, KG6HXS 2m quad; Carl, AF6MX 2/6m.

Novice: Carl, AF6MX antenna stand.

Extra: Pat, WA6MHZ, 1kw 6m amp; Tom, W5COM 160m antenna & 80, 40, 20, 17, 10m SWR meter; and Axel, KI6RRN, an ammeter.

The following were the winners of each category:

Antenna: Carl, AF6MX

Novice: Carl, AF6MX

Extra: Tom, W5COM

There being no further business before the General Membership, the meeting was adjourned at 2130 hrs.

Respectfully Submitted

Michael Paul Maston, N6OPH
Secretary
Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

From The Vice President KO4QT Steve



For decades, in an attempt to further their communications abilities, Amateur Radio Operators have been on the leading edge of communications technologies and a good number of these advances started out as "Home Brew" projects. In keeping with the spirit of technical advancement in Amateur Radio, the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon holds an annual "Home Brew Contest" every November. Last months contest was no exception! A good number of you entered projects that you've been working on, and I'd like to thank you for exhibiting your skills and expertise in the design and manufacture of the items you entered.

Saturday, November 21st was the Pacific Crest Trail Run in the Laguna Mountains. A few of our Club members braved the "cold" (about "30 degrees F" at 9:00am) to insure aid stations along the route had Amateur Radio Communications in the event the runners needed assistance along the route. They also kept track of, and called in, runner locations and times to Net Control. Thanks to all of you who supported San Diego Ultra Running Friends (SURF) at this event. For those of you who are new to the Club, SURF was instrumental in providing funds a couple years ago to purchase Amateur Radio Equipment and antennas for the Amateur Radio Station that the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon installed at CAL Fire's Monte Vista location. This radio equipment is used during "VIP" Red Flag Patrols and whenever Amateur Radio use is needed during fires/emergencies/disasters. Please keep SURF's support of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon in mind when asked to volunteer as Radio Operators for their runs.

I want to thank all of you who came out to El Cajon on November 22nd to help out with our Club's entry in the Mother Goose Parade. Whether you were riding on the "Float", "Tower Trailer", or one of

WA6BGS Nets

Mike Oberbauer:	KG6TDP	Net Manger
Mike Oberbauer:	KG6TDP	Net Controller
Frito	N6WKB	Wide Open Nets
Axel	KI6RRN	Donut Net

WAMO NETS:

Wednesday and Saturday Nights

8:00 p.m. local time 7:45 "Early Checkins"

This is an open net and all are invited. Early check-ins will be taken.

Donut Net:

Monday, 7:00 p.m.

Bring your Donuts. GOT MILK?

Wide Open Ham Net:

Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

Frito's Corn Chip Net:

Thursday, 7:00 p.m. on 28.435 Mhz USB

Nets held on Club's WA6BGS Repeaters System

RX 147.420 (146.475) 107.2 PL

RX 224.080 – 107.2 PL

RX 445.900 – 107.2 PL

Don't miss it. All members welcome.

WAMO means Worked All Members Only.

The purpose of WAMO is to encourage people to people communication between club members and to publicize the name of the club among fellow amateurs.

Calendar of Events December 2009

Dec.	1:	Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
Dec.	5:	Swap Meet, Santee Drive In, 6:30 am
Dec.	5:	T-Hunt, Grossmont College lot, 6:00 pm
Dec.	10:	General Meeting, 7:00 pm
Dec.	15:	Christmas Dinner HomeTown
Dec.	18:	Counterpoise Dead Line
Dec.	25:	Christmas Day

Upcoming Event Dates

Feb.	19:	Yuma Ham Fest
Feb.	20:	Yuma Ham Fest
Sept.	17:	ARRL SW Convention San Diego



Continued on Page 14

ARCEC Membership Form

Please print clearly, complete all info and return to Membership Chair with your payment:

- ☐ Individual Membership \$18.00 ☐ Family Membership \$30.00
☐ Counterpoise by MAIL add \$18.00 ☐ Counterpoise by Email or Website FREE

Name: _____ Class of License: _____

Other Family Members and Calls: _____

Address: _____

Call: _____ WAMO #: _____ Birthday: _____

Phone #: _____ Email address: _____

Check One: ☐ New Member ☐ Renewal ☐ Returning Member

*If you are a returning member, you will keep your original WAMO # _____

Check One: I give my permission to publish my info on the Club Roster coming out ☐ Yes ☐ No

If no, state exactly what information you do not want published: _____

Check all the apply: ARRL Member ARES Member Other _____

Would you like to be in the Counterpoise Spotlight? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Would you like to be a member of The East County Response Team? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Mail with payment to: Membership Chair, ARCEC, P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

***To be eligible for the drawing, must be postmarked no later than December 1 of the year.*

REV 9-2-2009



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The Counterpoise is also online in FULL COLOR. Check it out and the club's website at: www.wa6bgs.org

Get your advanced copy by e-mail. I will send it out in .PDF format the night it goes to print. E-mail me and let me know that you would like a copy. Size of file maybe up to 1.5 mb at times.

Computer Roster Available

Want the roster sent to you via e-mail? Send an e-mail to Ann Rios KC6TBG, and she will send you the database back as an attachment. She uses Excel, but may be able to convert to various formats if asked. Send your request to 619-593-9445 or KC6TBG@cox.net

FUN PAGE

Birthday

December 1 K6PZE Richard Gird
 December 4 KD6WFT Lee Darter
 December 6 KC6QLS Paul Rios
 December 8 KD6JXR Tom Walker
 December 11 K7VP Virgil Pattin
 December 12 KI6EEL Bridget Rios
 December 18 K6PKS Paul Schmidt
 December 19 KF6YVK Mary Durante-Le Leu
 December 20 KI6BUS Byron Ellsworth
 December 21 KC6TBG Ann Rios
 December 22 KN6HP Lee Sheeler
 December 26 K7URR Larry Johnson
 December 29 K7BAV Jim Gould
 December 29 KI6DZG Nicholas Lang
 December KI6IAR Bill Shaw
 December NOCALL Carrie Brummund (L)



Word Search

H A N U K A H Q U P I H S R O W
 A X G H W U Z F G Q G F X H S J
 N J W A N T E N N A S P C X T Q
 D Q F I U H J P U J X W Y W H E
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 E R E V I R D W E R C S C H I I
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| <input type="checkbox"/> CHRISTMAS | <input type="checkbox"/> RIG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CONTEST | <input type="checkbox"/> SNOW |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COUNTDOWN | <input type="checkbox"/> SNOWMAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GIFTS | <input type="checkbox"/> SCREWDRIVER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HANDHELD | <input type="checkbox"/> TOGETHERNESS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HANUKAH | <input type="checkbox"/> TREE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HRO | <input type="checkbox"/> WIND |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LIGHTS | <input type="checkbox"/> WORSHIP |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MILK | <input type="checkbox"/> ZENER |

Brain Thinkers

3 = S. and Y.re O. 3 Strikes and You're Out
 4 = M. in a S. 4 Movements in a Symphony
 57 = H. V. 57 Heinz Varieties
 ----- This Months -----
 12 = D. of C.
 70 = D. of C.
 365 D. in a Y.

Last Months Word Search

C O M M U N I T Y X L H Y S U S Y X
 R U W J L S D Y W S F A I R N E S S
 A M P L I F I E R D R W D L W T R R
 X W S A N N E T N A B D F J R D W O
 H Y L H D X H U D H Y J L D S W D B
 E C N A R E L O T Z R L A H Z E U M
 L A J W S V Z L R U V B S S B R J G
 P M X R D B A W Y Q X I P B Y R X R
 F O Z D J E Q B Q S E Y O W L Q R E
 U U L V T H R Y S N W Q L Q B V B N
 L F H S S Z Q T L U S U E R J W U H
 U L R E W J H L J D Y Y R V X Q S Z
 R A V L B G A V H W E X V D H Y V R
 Y G X U I D Y B D V R S U R L U D Y
 S E L R E C A L C I T R A N T X S Z
 U R Y K L W D H N O T A C O L O D
 D H R U D Y H S D H C Y W Z Y Q L S
 N O I T A C U D E D A L D U S R Z H
 W H S Y H J W Z L J L U Y J L M J W

ASK AN ELMER

"Vertical" or "Yagi"... how do you decide?

What is a "Yagi"? A "Yagi", sometimes called a "Beam", can come in a variety of configurations of two or more elements. The more elements you add, the more gain you'll get.

OK, what's all of this mean? A "Yagi" starts out as a simple "Dipole" (generally made of aluminum tubing and is called the "radiator", "driven element" or "driver") and is mounted on a tubular boom (or pipe). What makes a "Yagi" different from a "Dipole"? A "Yagi" of two elements has that "driver" we mentioned earlier, along with another piece of aluminum tubing which is (normally) the "Reflector". The "Reflector" is mathematically spaced away from "Driver", is longer than the "Driver" and is a conductor from tip to tip. A three element "Yagi" not only has a "Driver" and "Reflector", it also has a "Director". The "Director" is also a tubular conductor from tip to tip but is shorter than the "Driver". If the "Yagi" has four or more elements, the additional elements will be "Directors" and the farther they get from the "Driver", the shorter they'll be. A "Yagi" antenna can also be made out of wire, however, wire "Yagi's" designed for use in the HF bands will be difficult to rotate.

What are the benefits of a "Yagi"? A "Yagi" is called a "uni" or "one way" "Directional" antenna because the majority of its signal will be transmitted in the direction away from the "Reflector" and toward its "Director". The more elements you add, the more "Gain" or "Amplification" of your signal you will have and the more directional your signal will become.

One of the drawbacks of depending solely on a "Yagi" is that as the antenna transmits a signal in one direction, it also receives in that same direction. If you're not using a separate "omni" directional (one that receives 360 degrees) receive antenna, you may be missing out on signals being transmitted from the sides or behind your "Yagi".

"Omni" directional?, that would be your "Vertical" antenna. What's a "Vertical" antenna? A "Vertical" antenna is one that's mounted, what else, but "Vertically". It can be as simple as a single band "mobile" antenna or as elaborate as a multi-band "home" antenna with an overall length of more than 40' base to tip. The secret to optimizing your "Vertical" antenna, is your system of "Radials" or your "Ground Plane". In a mobile installation, the "Vertical" uses the vehicle body as it's "Ground Plane" and the majority of it's signal is transmitted in the direction of the vehicles body furthest from the antenna. If your "Vertical" is ground mounted, ideally, "Radials" are installed at the base of your antenna, horizontally and cut to a quarter wavelength, creating a "Ground Plane". A minimum of at least two "Radials" are recommended for each band that your antenna is designed to operate. As the coax center conductor is attached to one quarter wavelength side of a "Dipole" and the shield to the other quarter wavelength side, on a "Vertical" antenna, the center conductor of your coax goes to your "Vertical" and the "Shield" is attached to your "Radials". If the plans for your "Vertical" installation place the antenna on a mast above ground, insure that the mounting location on the mast is a "NON" conductor. The idea of "Radials" is to increase your transmit and receive signals in the direction of the radials. A "Vertical" antenna mounted on a metal mast (or any other "Vertical" conductor for that matter), will be seen as a dipole, rather than a "Ground Plane".

Back to our original question, "Vertical vs. Yagi antenna, which is better"? There are lot's of "IF's" involved in the answer.

If you're lucky enough for cost, room and permitting not to be a problem, by all means, dig your hole so you can install the tallest tower in the land and mount your multi-band "Yagi" at it's peak.



Continued Page 11

**The Editor's
Corner
KC6QLS Paul**



Editor's Corner

It's good to be back and get this issue out. The move set me back a few months. We set up a new Office/ Engraving/Radio Room, and now I can work on the Counterpoise. I looked at 100's of photos from meetings, parades, antenna parties, and club events from the past three months, and it can be overwhelming. I will be working on a Photo Album entitled "Radio Active at its Best 2009."

Thanks for all your photos, to our Counterpoise Columnists, and for your input for the past year. The Counterpoise for 2010 looks good; I have done some pre-layouts ahead.

**73 Paul Rios, KC6QLS
Editor**

Public Relations

We got Press! Well, on the photo on the Front Page of the Union Tribune Newspaper we were right under the Mother Goose as she floated down the road. If you look real close, you can see Mike KG6TDP walking in front of one of two ARCEC Floats. We had our Club float with some of our members waving at the spectators, and this year the 100 foot tower was pulled by Linda, KI6JUD; Steve, KO4QT; and Heidi K9DAWG/2, and best of all, Carl KF6MX and Polo "soon to be a Ham" Riding on top of the Tower! The press loved it. When we went by the video cameras for Cox they took some shots. They even interviewed me along the parade route.

Thanks Ken, W6GAF and Monica for the ad-libs. It's great when one of the MC's for the Parade announces that they are a Ham Radio Operator and say his Call. Some may think that being in the Mother Goose Parade is a waste of time and money. If you could only see the faces on the kids and their folks as we drive by, it's Priceless! This was the second parade we did this year! We did the Anza Borrego Parade too. Our message to parade goers and our local communities is that the Amateur Radio Community is alive, Radio Active, and ready and willing to serve our community by providing communications in an emergency when called upon at a moments notice.

73 Paul Rios, KC6QLS Public Relations

Volunteers Needed

Up Coming Events

See Club's Calendar on Page 4

E-Mail

Address for the Counterpoise. Please submit all *Counterpoise* Mail to:

WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net

Prize Table Needs Help

Thank you for your contributions to the Prize Table! We still need your Support and Help or it may just end up a thing of the past. Please contact: Floyd Lang AF6BC at 303-6711.

Things to keep in mind

Get on the El Cajon ARC Reflector

To sign up visit:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/elcajonarc/>

You will get the latest news about The Club and things going on in the Ham world.

Quote of the Month

"What then is time? If no one asks me, I know what it is. If I wish to explain it to him who asks, I do not know."

- Saint Augustine

JOKE

How can you get four suits for a dollar? Buy a deck of cards.

How do dinosaurs pay their bills? With Tyrannosaurus checks.

Lisie KI6EEK

Crest Radio Museum

Pat Bunsold, WA6MHZ



Hallicrafters SX-28

The SX-28 is universally recognized as the finest of the Pre-War receivers. They were used during WW2 for listening in on enemy operations, and as the RX side of communications when the station just had to have the best of the best. Rock solid, and heavier than most rocks, the SX-28 has all the features one could ask for in a wonderful rig. SO, it was with great joy and merriment that I had the chance to obtain one of these fabled radios, coverage is .55 to 43 Mc. It uses 15 tubes, mostly the black metal variety. I had one already in the Museum, but it had no cabinet, tubes or knobs. It was unknown if it would ever work again. But this new one, supplied by new club member Mike K6WD, was a beauty!

It took both of us to get it out to the Town Car trunk, and a Superman act to get it out of the trunk. This will break anyone's back. It is supposed to weigh 75lbs, but it felt a lot heavier than that.

I got it to work and began to surmise the work ahead. Much of the chassis was rusted, but not too bad. I was able to neutralize the rust process on the lower chassis areas, and sand down and paint the large capacitor cover enclosure in the rig's center. Various other areas were wire brushed down with the Dremel tool, and the knobs detailed to look new.

The Heathkit IT-11 Cap rejuvenator revived the 70 year old Electrolytic caps, and no paper caps appeared shorted. I did replace one 25K resistor that had changed into a 43K due to a pot shorting out. The pot was repaired.

This radio really weighted down my company workbench, and gouged holes in the static mat. Management wouldn't be happy about that, so I placed some thick cardboard under it. That worked great. Someday they will have to replace this mat now.

The SX-28 has a 5000 ohm and 500 ohm speaker output, so a transformer had to be acquired to allow it to drive the typical 8 ohm unit. Once playing, though, the sound was incredible, much richer and with more depth than ever heard before in mortal radios. What a spectacular rig!!!!

The front panel was detailed with Lemon furniture polish to give it a wet shiny appearance, just as it did back in 1940. Everything works great now, and it is ready for daily use or museum service. But it is not going to be moved very often. I can't believe how HEAVY this is! It is sitting on a hydraulic lift cart which is the only table that will securely hold it. Thanks again, to Mike K6WD, for this wonderful SX-28!!!

HEATHKIT HR-20

AFTER years of trying, I finally nailed a Heathkit HR-20 Receiver to mate up to the HX-20 transmitter I have had for quite some time. These pair of rigs were a Mobile solution that Heathkit decided would fit under a typical dashboard in a 1962 car. Together, they are the size of a large TV set, and will weight the floor down. SO they are recommended to just sit on the Driveshaft Hump.

They cover 80-10M, The transmitter is good for maybe 40W PEP with a single 6146 Final. They were amongst the first SSB rigs, and are both filter type designs. The only common component is the Power supply (seen to the left, a HP-20) and the antenna relay for switching between TX and RX.

I scored the HR-20 the 2nd time around after being first outbid and it went up to \$80. The rat buyer stiffed the seller and he re-listed it. This time, I nailed it for \$35. It was pretty grungy and rusted, but I spent a weekend cleaning it up and restoring it. Now it looks and works pretty good. But, 40 meters didn't work on RX. After extensive troubleshooting and investigation, I found the Local Oscillator coil was WIRED BACKWARDS and had been so since it was first constructed in 1962!!! So this radio hadn't worked for 47 years!!!!!!!!!!!! Imagine how many Hams bought and sold this over time, couldn't fix it and then sold it again thinking the NEXT buyer would get it to work! The chain ended right here in the Crest Radio Museum as I conquered the error!!! Feels so good to fix something that couldn't be fixed for 47 years!!!!!!!!!!!!

I am sure running out of room in the West Wing of the Museum, as the SX-28 and the HR pair are on the Hydraulic lift cart. That is the Only available space left! But I ALWAYS need more radios, of course. MORE is good, no matter where I shoehorn them in. 73!

Pat Bunsold WA6MHZ
Curator
Crest Radio Museum



Continued Page 12

Chicken Noodle Soup for the Ham Radio Operator's Soul

"ARRL Announces Partnership with Save the Radios Foundation"

Turmoil and change have shaken the ranks of our hobby in recent years. Controversy over incentive licensing, the role of the code, and concern over the dwindling ranks of our hobby have caused angst and sown the seeds of division among hams, young and old. Now, with the spring of renewal in Cycle 24 upon us, it is time for a healing catharsis for our hobby, with "Chicken Noodle Soup for the Ham Radio Operator's Soul".

This morning, an announcement released at ARRL headquarters in Newington, Connecticut has stirred interest among the U.S Amateur Radio community. The announcement concerns a new League initiative titled *"Ham Radios at Risk."* *Chicken Noodle Soup* readers will recall word of a proposed *"Ham Radios at Risk"* project was leaked to the Ham media last year. The proposal was an effort to identify transceivers at risk for abandonment by their Ham Radio owners, because of "technology deficiencies," a term used by radio psychologists to describe radio equipment no longer considered desirable due to lack of features or design. The League had learned that scores of once-desirable radios were increasingly being abandoned in favor of more desirable, "full featured" transceivers, and were reportedly falling into the hands of "unsavory amateurs." Many of these Amateurs were suspected of not being licensed to send and receive the International Morse Code. The formal announcement of this initiative, publicly revealing the existence of a previously unknown scandal within the Amateur Radio hobby, has prompted a groundswell of expression of concern within the ranks of Amateur Radio.

Phone lines at League headquarters have been jammed following the announcement, revealing a high level of interest in the "Ham Radios at Risk" issue, especially among the key age 49 to 61 year old Ham demographic age group. Advertisers in the League's national magazine "QST" closely watch this age group, considered a key indicator of Ham opinion by the League. League spokesperson Terry Jennings-Hargsgood-Bergroyn-Hasselflat explains. "This age 'segment' of the Ham population is a key trend setter. Having experienced years of the companionship of a transceiver, the lifelong bonds which this Ham segment have experienced, qualify these Hams as opinion influencers. These influencers are also referred to in League parlance as *'empathy leaders'* positioned to sway opinion trends for the entire Ham population."

Jennings-Hargsgood-Bergroyn-Hasselflat goes on to describe one recent and particularly tragic telephone call to League headquarters. The Ham caller, obviously shaken by the tragic experience, re-tells a story of a well known U.S. Ham Radio contestester who had purchased a newer, more technologically advanced transceiver and had sold his former "radio sweetheart," a 22 year old vintage transceiver and his former electronic companion, on an E-Bay on-line auction. According to FCC records, the transceiver was "picked up" by a newly licensed Ham who was revealed later to be the owner of an electronics store, a tip off that the transceiver was purchased not for contesting as represented by the Ham, but rather, to be sold for parts. Further investigation revealed the Ham making the purchase did not possess an FCC code endorsement. The calling Ham was directed to professional counseling and eventually sought help in dealing with the emotional impact of the experience.

In an exclusive interview with *"Chicken Noodle Soup"* Jennings-Hargsgood-Bergroyn-Hasselflat revealed how a flood of concern from Ham Radio ranks prompted action by ARRL Directors at a recent Newington Board meeting. "What was particularly disturbing to League directors were reports that abandoned Ham transceivers were being disassembled for their components, some used for electronic testing. This was the motivating factor in mobilizing the League to action on this issue," states a resolute Jennings-Hargsgood-Bergroyn-Hasselflat.

Initially, Ham Radio "foster homes" were identified as an acceptable approach to the problem. However, following the groundswell of responses to identify "Radios at Risk," League Directors at the June Board meeting endorsed a second, more comprehensive approach. The League has announced a partnership with the "Save the Radios Foundation," where "Save the Radios" will establish regional *"Ham Transceiver Foster Homes"* staffed by League personnel and ARRL certified *"At Risk"* counselors.

The Ham community will be permitted the opportunity to "adopt" selected transceivers. ARRL *"At Risk"* counselors will then connect adopted radios on a regular basis and allow them the opportunity to relive the thrill of a DX contact, contest exchange, or brief rag chew.

Additionally, under the auspices of the "Save the Radios" foundation, Hams will be allowed to place their "electronic old friends" in a warm, caring, and supportive environment where treasured electronic friends can live

Chicken Noodle Soup Continued

out their remaining days in comfort, and on occasion, enjoy a taste of their former glory days in the ARRL supported "Ham Transceiver Foster Homes".

"It has been so moving to witness the overwhelming outpouring of support and concern over the 'Save the Radios' partnership" adds an emotional Jennings-Hargood-Bergroyn-Hasselflat. In response to the outpouring of interest, the League has established various levels of donor support for the "Save the Radios" initiative. There will be a \$50,000 Kirchoff donor level, named for German physicist Gustav R. Kirchhoff. A \$25,000 donation level has been named for British physicist Lord Kelvin, inventor of the Kelvin temperature scale, and a \$10.00 donor level, named for noted Ham gadfly Frederic O'My, regarded as the father of the "no code" Ham Radio license.

In addition, Hams who wish to donate directly to the FCC may provide their "lifelong electronic friend" the experience of a lifetime, by participating in the FCC's "Gettysburg Certificate of Love Program". Under the program, FCC staffers will connect transceivers to the FCC's giant monitoring antenna array, and make a contact from FCC headquarters in Gettysburg, PA. An "FCC Gettysburg Certificate of Love" will then be issued to the owner of the trusted "electronic friend", for the capstone of a lifetime of memories.

Editor's note: This installment of Chicken Noodle was originally written the April 1st edition of Counterpoise. We regret the delay in publication.

Morris AZ6CW



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Ask an Elmer Continued

If, on the other hand, you're antenna space is limited, cost is a factor and/or local ordinances forbid installation of antenna mounting structures, a vertical antenna may be your best bet.

If you have the ability to have both, you'd be best off.

Which ever way you decide on going, make sure you stay within the limits allowed by local ordinances.

Next month's question is, "What is Antenna Wind Load?"

73, Elmer A. Ham

Please submit your thoughts to WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net and the Elmers will answer with your feedback. Also, please send in any question that you might have.

Information and Resources:

Club Members and People thinking of joining.
Radio QSO's & Button Hole QSO's



Frito Wide Open Net
WA6BGS Repeter Tue. Night
Freq. 147.420 8:00 pm
Bring your Chips and sit back
and have Fun. Open to All

CUSTOM ENGRAVING

- * CLUB BADGES
- * HAM CALL BADGES
- * PLAQUES
- * QSL CARDS

QLS ENGRAVING

CALL: (619) 593-9445
E-MAIL: QLS_ENGRAVING@COX.NET
WEB: QLS_ENGRAVING.COM
MAIL TO: P.O. BOX 913, EL CAJON CA 92022

Crest Museum Continued



**2010 ARRL Southwestern Division
Amateur Radio Convention
September 17, 18 & 19, 2010
San Diego, California
Four Points, By Sheraton Hotel
San Diego**

**For up to date information about the
Convention, please visit us at the
website: www.sandarc.org/**

See you at the Convention!

CLub Photos



Membership Report

Ann KC6TBG



The ARCEC 2010 Membership Drive was held from September 1, 2009 through December 1, 2009. Thank you to all who renewed early during our Membership Drive. The Early Bird Drawing will be held at the Christmas Party. As you will recall, the Club has returned to the old system of collecting membership dues and everyone's Club Membership dues expire December 31st of each year. This means that if you have not already renewed your ARCEC Membership Dues for 2010, please do so as soon as possible either by mail to the post office box or at a club meeting. The next Club Roster will be available at the February 2010 General Membership Meeting and anyone who has not renewed their dues by February 1, 2010 will not be included on the 2010 Roster.

New Members:

Paul Thompson, KJ6PYE	WAMO 1812
Russell Graff, KJ6BTL	WAMO 1813
Jerry Hanson, KF6ZRQ	WAMO 1814
Polo Navarro	WAMO 1815
Doug Dowds, W6HB	WAMO 1816
Gary Riddle, KJ6BXL	WAMO 1817
Michael Carter, KF5CQB	WAMO 1818
Carl Maniscalco, KJ6BSO	WAMO 1819
Steve Herr, KI6YZB	WAMO 1820
Mathew Segura, KJ6DCN	WAMO 1821
Robert Liddell	WAMO 1822
Emily Havran, KJ6DOZ	WAMO 1823
David Havran, KA3ZJW	WAMO 1824

Congratulations to all who have upgraded your license!

If you have upgraded your license within the past year, please contact me at kc6tbg@cox.net or see me at the meeting so that I can update your information on the ARCEC Roster.

All Members are welcome to participate on all ARCEC weekly Nets. The WAMO Net is an opportunity to meet new members, collect WAMO's and practice your communication skills. Please join us. For more information on the dates and times, see page 4 of this Newsletter.

The 2009 ARCEC Roster is for club use only. However, please do not use this club roster to contact club members at the telephone numbers and addresses listed on the roster for the purpose of working a WAMO. The Rules for working WAMO are listed on the website and must be followed in order to receive WAMO Certificates. Also, copies of the WAMO Rules are available at club meetings.

73, Ann, KC6TBG

Individual Dues Membership:

\$18.00 per year (\$1.50 per month):

January	\$ 18.00	July	\$ 9.00
February	\$ 16.50	August	\$ 7.50
March	\$ 15.00	September	\$ 6.00
April	\$ 13.50	October	\$ 4.50
May	\$ 12.00	November	\$ 3.00
June	\$ 10.50	December	\$ 1.50 *

***plus \$18.00 for the following year**

Family Dues Membership:

\$30.00 per year (\$2.50 per month):

January	\$ 30.00	July	\$ 15.00
February	\$ 27.50	August	\$ 12.50
March	\$ 25.00	September	\$ 10.00
April	\$ 22.50	October	\$ 7.50
May	\$ 20.00	November	\$ 5.00
June	\$ 17.50	December	\$ 2.50 *

***plus \$30.00 for the following year**

Ann, KC6TBG
Membership Chair

From The Vice-President Continued

our vehicles, adding garland and banners to the float, operating radios, working WAMO #000, taking pictures...or whatever your role in the parade, again, thank you!

A special thanks goes out to John K6JWB for loaning us his trailer (for the second year in a row I might add) to use as our "Float"... and to Paul KC6QLS and Rich N6NKJ for the hours they spent framing the trailer for the "Float".

Antennas, Antennas, Antennas...

As I write this, final preparations are underway for three "Antenna Parties" (all on the same day) on Saturday November 28th. We'll start out in Descanso at the house of John WA6L (at 9:00am) and replace the rotor on his tower. From there we'll head to El Cajon (around noon or so) to get Virgil K7VP on the air with a new multi-band inverted "V" antenna (that we'll build on from scratch on-site). The day won't end there though. When we finish up at Virgil's, it's over to Lakeside to our Club President, Paul KC6QLS's house to investigate an antenna issue. This should be a really fun day filled with lots of stuff to learn about antennas and supporting structures. Thanks to all of you who came out to help.

At our December meeting, along with our elections, we also have a very informative program scheduled. Wayne Barringer, KB6UJW, who's been an emergency/disaster responder for many years, will talk to us (and show lots of pictures) about lessons he learned during his response to the aftermath of 2004's Hurricane Charley in Florida.

As you probably noticed in the information I posted about our Club's elections, my name isn't on it. If you haven't already heard, Linda and I have moved out of the house we were renting in San Diego and into our 30' long travel trailer. Our plan is to enjoy the sites our country has to offer as "Full Time RV'ers". We're fully equipped with radio equipment and antennas in both the truck and trailer capable of operating all bands from 160m to 70cm. We'll also be setting up an APRS

station in the trailer that will give our "real time" location as we travel. Let me know if you'd like a list of frequencies we'll be using. While on the road, we'll also have internet access and our cell phones (our phone numbers and email addresses will remain the same as they are now). Linda and I will have our trailer at the Christmas Party, set up, antennas in the air (an open house so to speak) for those of you who would like to see how we'll be set up and operating while on the road.

It's hard to believe that the final month of my second year as Vice President of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon has arrived and that this is my final column for the "Counterpoise". This has been a position I have enjoyed immensely (and kept myself pretty busy at it I might add)! I appreciate the support and encouragement that you all have given me, the multitude of new friendships I've gained, when I've asked, the time you've given to the Club attending and working events and the generous donations you've given to the Club to keep us going. Undoubtedly, you will continue in your support of our new Vice President, Gary W6GRK.

Lastly, I have to thank our Club President Paul, KC6QLS for his support. We've worked together towards our Club's goal to become "Radio Active". We have seen an increase in our membership and an increase in the number and variety of events we now sponsor annually (antenna parties, Club Booths, Field Day, Communications for races, Parades, etc.) The ARCEC offers something for everyone.

This has been a GOOD two years for me, and I'm truly going to miss the work I've been doing for the Club. Thank you all for helping make my tenure as the 2008/2009 Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon Vice President memorable!

73,

Steve Weed, KO4QT



Some Home Brew Photos



VOTE For Ham of The Year 2009

Larry Plummer, AE6AV

Larry has been on the ARCEC Board for many years. He has participated in a number of events such as the Del Mar Fair Kids Best Booth, Fire Station 6 Open House, and Field Day(s) just to name a few. At some of the events where kids are, he is the voice on the other side of the radio asking the youngsters all kinds of questions and keeping them talking on the radio and sparking their interest.

He has also been the Club's SANDARC Representative for a number of years. He attends SANDARC Meetings on the last Thursday of each month where he represents the ARCEC and then he reports back to us at our meeting about SANDARC's activities, the upcoming 2010 Convention, and on what other clubs are doing.

Larry is not afraid to offer his opinion and experience and has had several great ideas that he has brought up at the Board meetings and that have been implemented by our Club.

For his service and dedication to the ARCEC, I nominate Larry Plummer, AE6AV for the ARCEC 2009 Ham of the Year.



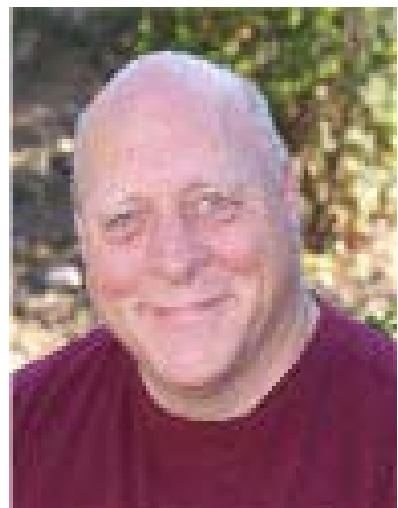
Steve Weed, KO4QT

After Steve was elected Vice President, he hit "the street" running. He has gone above and beyond the required V.P. duties and has done an outstanding job. Steve has been keeping the members informed on the nets and updating the calendar on the internet. He also coordinates the "Radio Active" events to insure there is plenty of water, antennas, cables, tables, and chairs at the events.

He has done a fantastic job in setting up Field Day and making sure everything is running smooth. He manned the Del Mar Fair Booth for over eleven shifts getting people turned on to Amateur Radio. Plus, he helped with the setup and tear down of the booth, which was over eight hours.

He was involved with the two Club picnics with set up and tear down, and he participated in the Mother Goose Parade. He helped out with the Anza Borrego Parade by getting the paper work turned in for our Club.

For his service as the ARCEC Vice President and for his willingness to go that extra mile for the Club, I nominate Steve Weed, KO4QT for the ARCEC 2009 Ham of the Year.



**Vote For
Members for the Board**



**Mike
KG6TDP**

**Larry
AE6AV**



**Ann
KC6TBG**



**Nick
AD6UK**



**Bill
N9QO**

**Carl
AF6MX**



**Rich B.
N6NKJ**



**Rich W.
KF6KE**

No Photo for Byron KI6BUS



From the Desk of Monica Zech PIO City of El Cajon

What's Happening In El Cajon:

The El Cajon Police Storefront Is Back At Westfield Parkway!

Take a break while shopping and visit the El Cajon Police Storefront during the month of December! This year they are located between the food court and J.C. Penney. See the restored 1942 police vehicle and pick up some great safety tips for the holidays. Come in and chat with officers and check out the great displays and photographs. The storefront is open weekdays, now through December 31st, except Christmas Day & New Years Day. Hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and some days until 9:00 p.m. For more information please call Officer Dan Hansen at (619) 441-1597.

Traditions of Christmas Starts Thursday!

Kick off your holidays with Traditions Of Christmas, opening Thursday, December 10 at the East County Performing Arts Center. Enjoy beautiful singing and dancing, see Santa and his workshop of elves, and a live Nativity scene you will never forget! Experience the sights, sounds, and wonders of the holiday season as CCT Musical Theater presents the 17th Annual Traditions of Christmas - A Musical Spectacular. You will be enchanted by this holiday spectacular featuring customs from Around the World, your favorite Christmas songs, and inspirational scenes. It is a great show that has holiday traditions from every century, every culture, and every generation. For tickets or more information, call (619) 588-0206 or (800) 696-1929. To purchase tickets online go to www.tickets.cyt.org, or visit their box office at 1545 Pioneer Way in El Cajon.

Be Prepared In The New Year - 2010 CERT Schedule

We have scheduled our "free" 2010 East County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) disaster preparedness classes. The schedule is posted below and on our website at www.elcajonfire.com - register now!

Academy - #1 - Space Available
February 6 - Disaster preparedness/CERT organization
February 20 - Disaster Medical/ Triage
March 6 - Fire Extinguishers/Light Search and Rescue classroom
March 20 - Fire Extinguishers/Light Search and Rescue hands on - *At HTF
April 3 - Disaster Psychology/ Haz-Mat/ Terrorism
April 17 - All inclusive manipulative/ review - *At HTF

Academy - #2 - Space Available
May 22 - Disaster preparedness/CERT organization
June 5 - Disaster Medical/ Triage
June 19 - Extinguishers/Light Search and Rescue classroom - (two week break)
July 10 - Fire Extinguishers/Light Search and Rescue hands on - *At HTF
July 24 - Disaster Psychology/ Haz-Mat/ Terrorism
August 7 - All inclusive manipulative/ review - *At HTF

These classes are held on Saturday mornings from 8:30am to 12:30pm. Class location for "registered" CERT students is 8054 Allison Avenue, La Mesa Fire Station 11 in La Mesa. If you would like to register please call (619) 441-1737. Please leave your name and best contact phone number. The HTF location is 1301 N. Marshal in El Cajon for the hands-on training.

Classes are limited to 35 to 40 participants per academy, ages 16 and up. Please, for safety concerns, we ask you do not bring babies or children to these classes. Any classes missed may be made up during the following academy. Classes are taught by members of the El Cajon, La Mesa and Santee Fire Departments. Visit www.elcajonfire.com for more information on CERT.

*Please keep me informed of your community events by placing me on your mailing or e-mail list. If you have an event in the City of El Cajon that you would like to share, please contact Monica Zech, Public Information Officer for the City of El Cajon, via e-mail at mzech@ci.el-cajon.ca.us, or send to: Monica Zech, Public Information Officer, City of El Cajon, 200 Civic Center Way, El Cajon, CA 92020.

Amateur Radio At Large

From Rich N6NKJ



Hello again,

I do apologize for being AWOL for a few issues. As most of you know, our brother, Charles Lee Beisigl, passed away on September 7th, and I just did not feel like doing anything for quite a while. Charles owned a communication shop in Roseburg, Oregon for many years. When I would visit his shop, there would be local and State Troopers having coffee and talking to Charles. To all of you who sent your condolences to us, THANK YOU.

The Open House at El Cajon's Fire Station 6 was not as well attended as last years, but at our booth, we were busy helping kids make wooden keys and with people asking about Amateur Radio.

In Canada, there is a bill, Ontario Bill C118, which would prohibit the use of ANY equipment that is NOT HANDS FREE, and this includes Ham Radios. The Canadian government has given the Amateur Radio Community three years to come up with a hands free way of using their Ham gear in their automobiles. You can go to VA3QV's web log to learn more about Ontario Bill C118. Are we next?

At our December meeting, there will be a lot going on; election of the Board of Directors for our Club, Ham of the Year, and a talk by Wayne Barringer, KB6UJW.

Our friends at REACT have the North Park Toyland Parade coming up and may need some help. If you type in Southwestern React, you will be able to click on their webpage, next click on upcoming events; there is no date as yet for the parade. REACT has been a very big help with the Red Flag Patrol and has never turned down our call for operators, so let's give them a hand.

Do not forget our Christmas dinner on December 15, 2009, at the El Cajon Hometown Buffet, located at 390 West Main Street in El Cajon. The party starts at 5:30 or 6pm. If you would like to

check on meal prices, call 619-444-6477. Well, that is it from me for this month. As you and your family and friends gather to celebrate Christmas, let us NEVER, NEVER forget our brave men and women of the armed forces of the U.S.A., who are far from home, keeping us safe. Shake their hands and thank them for serving our country.
GOD BLESS THE U.S.A.
Rich, N6NKJ

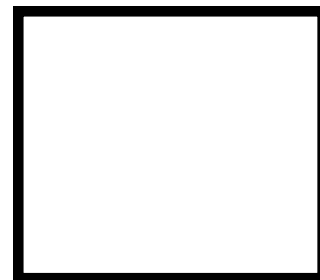
More Club Photos



Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon
P.O. Box 50
El Cajon, CA 92022



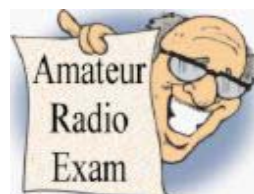
Issue Date 12/2009



**For Ham Radio
Classes
Tech License Starts
Soon**

**Please Contact:
Mike Maston
N6OPH
(619) 296-9067**

**Please Visit Our Website at
www.WA6BGS.org**



VEC Testing Sites

1 st Saturday:	El Cajon 10:00 am First Lutheran Church of EC 867 South Lincoln Ave.
2 nd Saturday:	Carlsbad 9:30 am Carlsbad Safety Center Orion Way Carlsbad
3 rd Saturday:	North Park 10:00 am North Park Recreation Center 4044 Idaho Street San Diego
4 th Saturday:	Chula Vista 8:30 am Fire Station #7 1640 Santa Venetia Chula Vista
5 th or last Saturday:	Escondido 9:00 am LDS Church 1917 East Washington St.

To make advance reservations or to find out more info
from the site captain, please call 465-EXAM (3926)